

theCHITIMACHA NEWSLETTER

May 1998

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**NEWSLETTER
EDITOR**

Ted M. Darden

NOTES FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE

Hello again from the Chairman's office,

We're headed straight into May and it seems like time is flying by. This month is without a doubt, the most active and exciting of the entire spring. Checking my calendar, I find the following:



Chairman Al LeBlanc

May 4th thru 8th.....Tribal Council Candidacy Qualifying
May 4th thru 8th.....Teacher Appreciation Week
May 7th.....Tribal Council Meeting
May 16th.....Chitimacha Prom night
May 19th.....Graduate luncheon at gymnasium
May 19th.....Pre-K graduation and awards ceremony
May 20th.....Graduation, at 6:30 PM
May 21st.....Last day of school
May 21st.....Tribal Council Meeting
May 25th.....Memorial Day
May 31st & June 1st.....Picnic at Zoo of Acadiana

I hope that everyone will mark your calendars and plan to attend as many of these functions as possible. Our community support is what makes these things exciting. See you there.

During the first week of June, Tribal staff and I will travel to Nashville for the Spring Board meeting of USET. Issues up for discussion will be the possible relocation of BIA area Office to Nashville and adequate staffing of the IHS Area Office. Both of these issues have been at the forefront of discussions and should make challenging and lively topics at this meeting. I'll let you know how it comes out.

Saturday June 13th will be Election Day . Candidates will be seeking the offices of Secretary/Treasurer and two council at large positions. On Sunday June 14th we will gather as a community to enjoy Appreciation Day. This is always a good time and I hope to see you there.

Our sincerest condolences go out to the Higgins Family due to the loss of Jamie. Our thoughts and prayers are with them at this time of great sorrow.

Until next time..... Be safe, Be well, Enjoy

Tribal Council Resolutions

In January Tribal Members received a copy of Resolution CHI-TC #1-98 designating the Tribal Council membership. In an effort to keep everyone more informed of Tribal Council actions, a short synopsis of Chitimacha Tribal Council Resolutions will be printed in the newsletter.

CHI-TC #2-98

Authorization for signatures on checking accounts.

CHI-TC #3-98

Authorization for the Self-Governance Compact and Annual Funding Agreement with Indian Health Services.

CHI-TC #4-98

Authorization for withdrawal of funds and transference of securities now maintained by the Office of Trust Funds Management.

CHI-TC #5-98

Authorization to submit an Indirect Cost Proposal to the Department Interior for the period of January 1, 1998 through December 31, 1998.

CHI-TC #6-98

PENDING.

CHI-TC #7-98

Authorization for a residential lease agreement.

CHI-TC #8-98

Authorization to submit a grant application to the Office of Justice for the purpose of development and implementation of a program targeting violence against women.

CHI-TC #9-98

Authorization of USET Board Members

and Standing Proxy to the USET Board of Directors.

CHI-TC #10-98

Establishes Indian Nations Insurance Company as a Chitimacha Tribal enterprise.

CHI-TC #11-98

Authorization to open a checking account titled Indian Nations Insurance Company and signatory authority.

CHI-TC #12-98

Authorization to enter into an agreement with the Army Corps of Engineers for the purpose of providing technical planning and development assistance on the engineer and design of the loop roads for Raintree Village.

CHI-TC #13-98

Appoints Tribal Prosecutor/Lay Advocate.

CHI-TC #14-98

Authorization to execute an Account Agreement with the Whitney National Bank.

CHI-TC #15-98

Authorization to seek assistance from the USDA Rural Development for the purpose of constructing an Assisted Living Facility on the Chitimacha Reservation.

"Kop's Korner"

**News from the Chitimacha Police Department
Frank McCloskey, Police Chief**

April 1998

During the month of April, two traffic citations were issued for driving under suspension, two for no drivers license, and one each for careless operation, expired inspection sticker, and expired registration.

One subject was arrested on the charge of careless operation.

NEW POLICE OFFICERS

We welcome to the department Officers Cory Broussard and John Wirick IV, who started their employment on April 20. Cory was employed with the Iberia Parish Sheriff's Office since 1993 working in the narcotics division. He was also assigned to the Special Response Team and was responsible for the handling and up-keep training of a narcotics detector canine. Cory served in the United States Marine Corp from 1988 to 1992.

John Wirick IV was employed with the Iberia Parish Sheriff's Office since July 1996 and also worked in the narcotics division. John served in the United States Marine Corp from 1983 to 1994. From 1994 to 1996 he worked as a dispatcher with the Florida Seminole Tribe Law Enforcement Department, while attending the Florida P.O.S.T. Academy. Please join us in welcoming Cory and John to the Chitimacha Police Department Team!



LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION DAY

We send our thanks and appreciation to Brother Bobby Hines and members of the First Baptist Church, Franklin, for sponsoring the Third Annual Law Enforcement and Firefighter Appreciation Day on Thursday, April 16. In 1996 Brother Bobby sponsored this event to honor area law enforcement personnel and this year he also recognized area firefighters. Police departments honored included Franklin, Baldwin, Chitimacha and the Louisiana State Police. Fire departments honored were Franklin, Centerville, Baldwin and Charenton/Chitimacha. Participants were served breakfast, and an assortment of cookies were delivered for snacks throughout the day. An appreciation supper and special recognition service was held at 7 p.m. and Louisiana State Police Superintendent Col. William R. "Rut" Whittington served as the guest speaker. Brother Bobby serves as chaplain for the area police departments.

MDA HARLEY RIDE

On Sunday, April 19, Chitimacha police units and Chief McCloskey, riding his newly purchased Harley police package motorcycle, led the way through the reservation and to the casino for the MDA Harley Ride. The weather was beautiful and approximately 700 motorcycles took part in the event.

BICYCLE THEFTS

The department is currently investigating reports of three bicycle thefts that occurred over the last two months, from different residents on the reservation. **We ask anyone that may have any information about these thefts to please contact the police department.** Extra patrols are being made in the residential areas, but we do ask residents to make sure bicycles and other valuable property is in a secure place before retiring to their homes for the night or leaving their residence for a period of time.

ATV SAFETY COURSES

WE WOULD LIKE TO REMIND EVERYONE THAT OFFICER MIKE PONTIFF IS A CERTIFIED ATV SAFETY INSTRUCTOR. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN TAKING AN ATV SAFETY COURSE PLEASE CONTACT MIKE AT THE POLICE DEPARTMENT--923-4964.

ANIMAL CONTROL

Recently, officers have received complaints from residents about dogs being a nuisance running in front of vehicles or running after bicyclists and pedestrians. We would like to remind everyone about the animal control provisions set forth in the Chitimacha Environmental Codes.

TITLE XV-ENVIRONMENTAL CODE ARTICLE 1-ANIMAL CONTROL PROVISIONS

SECTION 303--PROHIBITIONS

(C) Every owner or keeper of animals shall exercise proper care and control of such animals so as to prevent them from creating or becoming a public nuisance. Excessive or untimely barking, howling or yelping so as to disturb the peace and quiet of a neighborhood or its residents or to disturb the health or repose of the residents; attacking or molesting passers-by or other animals; and/or being repeatedly at large; may be deemed to be the creation of a public nuisance and the owner or keeper of an animal causing such public nuisance may be deemed guilty of an infraction and subject to penalties.

(I) It shall be the duty of the owner or keeper of an animal to have such animal confined within

his or her yard or enclosure, or secured by a humane method therein.

(1) No animal shall be permitted to run or be upon any street, alleyway, highway, common or public square or any other facility used by the public unless under the immediate control of a competent person and restrained by a substantial chain or leash not exceeding six feet in length. Animals found to be at large may be seized and impounded or, as an alternative, the Animal Control Officer finding the said animal at large may issue a notice to the owner that his animal is in violation of this code.

SECTION 309--LIABILITY OF OWNER OR RESPONSIBLE PARTY FOR ANIMALS

In addition to the fees and charges to be paid to the Animal Shelter for the release of any impounded animal, any owner or responsible party, who has permitted a licensed or unlicensed animal to roam at large may be found guilty of an infraction, and shall be subject to a penalty as set forth in the codes.

SECTION 310--UNWANTED ANIMALS

Owners of unwanted animals may bring such animals to the St. Mary Parish Animal Shelter at no cost to the owner to be made available for adoption or other disposition at the discretion of the Animal Shelter.

SECTION 311--ANIMALS AT LARGE

The Animal Control Officer may impound any animal found to be at large. Any such animal impounded may be reclaimed by the owner upon payment of impoundment and daily boarding fees and compliance with other legal requirements for keeping such animal. If no claim is made on any such animal after seven days of impoundment, the Animal Warden may humanely dispose of same at its discretion.

PLEASE, TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOUR PETS!

IF FURTHER INFORMATION IS NEEDED PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AT 923-4964 OR THE ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER AT THE CHITIMACHA HEALTH DEPARTMENT 923-9955.

TRIBAL COURT NEWS

By Shirleen B. Fitzgerald, Tribal Courts Director

As you have read in the last issue of the Newsletter, I was appointed as Tribal Courts Director on March 30, 1998. For those of you who may not know me, let me take this opportunity to introduce myself. I am the daughter of Martha and Ovide Butaud, who, before their passing, had lived on the reservation since October, 1974. I started my employment with the Chitimacha Tribal Court on March 20, 1995 as the Tribal Courts Clerk. I am very excited to have been given the opportunity to work for the Tribe here on the reservation and I look forward to many more years here. I am extremely grateful to be given the opportunity to serve the community as the Tribal Courts Director, and wish to thank the Tribal Council for their vote of confidence in me. It is my intent to continue serving the community with the same professionalism you have been accustomed to in the past. Also, I would like to invite everyone to come by the Courts and meet me personally, tour our present facility or to view the plans for our new Court facility.

CURRENT COURT STATISTICS:

APRIL CASES: (17)

6 Civil Actions (5 Garnishments/ 1 Personal Injury Tort); 4 Domestic Actions (Petitions for Disbursement of Funds); 2 Traffic (Civil Infractions); 5 Juvenile (Delinquent Offenders)

MORTGAGES AND LIENS: (33)

Assignments

MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS: (02)

(1 Chitimacha Marriage License/ 1 Residential Lease)

COURT OF APPEALS: (00)

TOTAL ACTIONS PROCESSED

IN APRIL

(52)

CASES PENDING AS OF APRIL 1, 1998:

TRIAL COURT: (40)

- 01 CRIMINAL (Class A)
- 06 DOMESTIC RELATIONS
- 08 JUVENILE
- 05 TRAFFIC
- 02 CRIMINAL TRAFFIC

APPELLATE COURT: (00)

COURT SESSIONS

TRIBAL TRIAL COURT:

This month's regular session was conducted on April 7, 1998, at which time 11 matters were scheduled to be heard;

- (01) JUVENILE
(Fact-Finding Hearing)
- (05) TRAFFIC
(3 Hearing on CV Infractions/2 Hearings on Violation of Financial Agreements)
- (02) DOMESTIC RELATIONS
(1 Petition For Custody/ 1 Petition for Disbursement of Funds)
- (03) CIVIL TORT ACTIONS
(1 Prelim. Hearing/1 Status Conference/ 1 Rule To Show Cause)

SPECIAL SESSIONS:

Three Special Sessions were to be conducted in April; the first on April 13, 1998, at which time two Civil Tort Trials were scheduled to be heard; the second on April 15, 1998, at which time 1 Civil Tort Trial and 1 Hearing on Continuance and/or Trial on the Merits were scheduled to be heard; and the third on April 29, 1998, at which time 5 Juvenile matters (Initial Hearings) were heard.

NEXT REGULAR SESSION:

Our next regular session is scheduled for May 12, 1998, with open session beginning at 10:00 a.m.

As always, if you would like any further information regarding the Tribal Courts, please feel free to contact the Court at 923-7806; or come by anytime. Our regular office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. - Monday through Thursday, and 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Friday.

Tribal Administration

notes from the desk of Toby Darden, CAO

Last month I reported on the reorganization of the tribal administrative structure. I am pleased to say that so far the new supervisors and staff have been very responsive in adapting to the changes. This is important because the success of the Administration directly corresponds to the success of the Tribe. Thanks again to the tribal staff for doing a great job of meeting the growing needs of our community.

As part of our continued growth we would like to welcome several new employees:

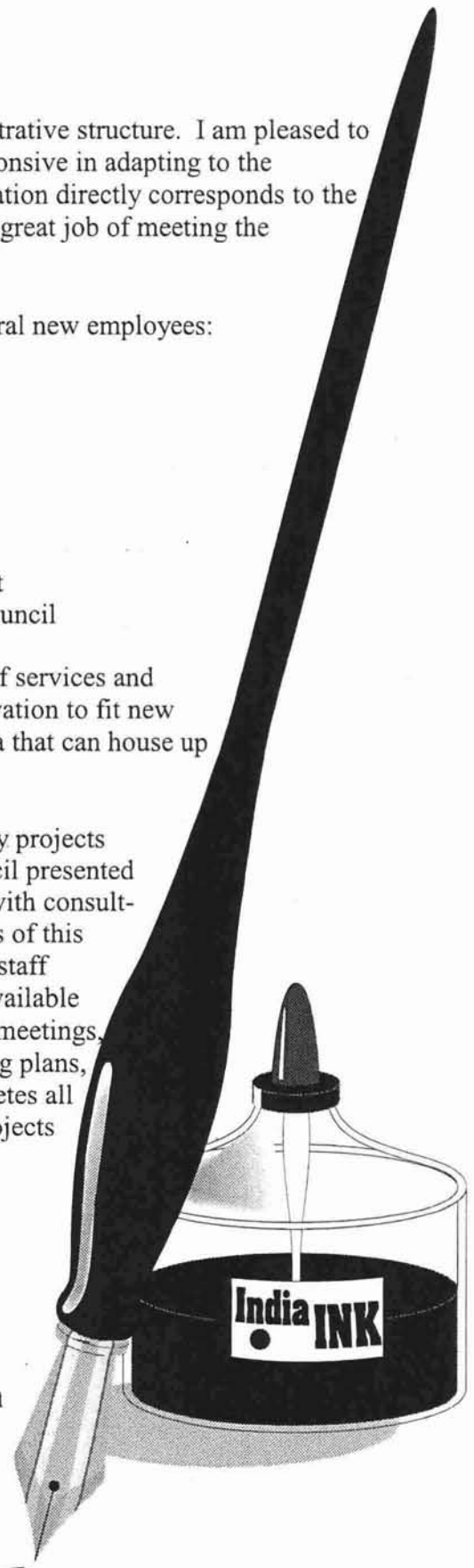
Marty Burgess - Facilities Worker in Maintenance Department,
Elda Talley - Food Services Assistant at Senior Center,
Candace Ibert - Accounting Manager in Finance Department,
Julie Burgess - Accounts Payable Clerk in Finance,
Jill Louviere - Deputy Clerk at Tribal Courts,
Cory Broussard - Police Officer with Tribal Police,
John Wirick - Police Officer with Tribal Police,
Heloise Mora - transfer from CHR to CMC Clerk in Health Dept
Roxanne Scott - Field Service Representative for Inter Tribal Council

Additional staff requires additional space. With the expansion of services and personnel in the Finance Department, we required a space renovation to fit new staff. We are now converting three offices into a large work area that can house up to six staff members.

The special meeting held April 25 reviewed the progress of many projects currently underway here on the reservation. Although the Council presented each project, I'd like to acknowledge that the tribal staff, along with consultants were responsible for bringing these ideas to reality. Projects of this significance aren't delivered overnight by UPS. Administrative staff complete many steps prior to the final facility or service being available to the membership. Planning sessions, funding research, budget meetings, plan reviews, construction meetings, policy development, staffing plans, all have to occur. The Tribal staff readily undertakes and completes all these activities. Evidenced by the success of the programs & projects already completed, the tribal staff continues to do a great job of carrying out the Council's priorities.

Till next month, best wishes!

Sincerely,
Toby C. Darden



Peggy Gaddy
Health Services Administrator

First, I would like to thank my supervisor Toby and the Tribal Council for giving me the opportunity to be Health Services Administrator. I am very pleased to be working in the areas of housing, senior program, recreation, and maintaining my contact with the health program. I will still be working in the area of clinic development and self-governance. Should anyone have any suggestions and/or recommendations on how we could improve in any of these areas, please feel free to come in and talk to me.

In April, Toby, Patty and I attended the IHS Self-Governance Conference in Las Vegas. The health program became self-governance status (Title III) in January of this year. A lot of advancements have been made with IHS since the law was passed enabling tribes to do business with the federal government in this manner. We have recently participated in other tribes' pre-negotiations with IHS for FY 1999 and will begin the process for our tribe's negotiations in August. Currently the legislation has been aimed at demonstration projects for self-governance, however, there is permanent legislation being proposed for this year. This has been an interesting process and we have learned a lot.

Health Department News
By Madeline Phelps, Director

Outreach Services

The CHR's will provide transportation only

to those clients who have no other means of getting to medical appointments or pharmacy. You must call the Health Department to schedule transportation at least one day before your appointment. As much as possible, we will continue to combine trips to the same area such as Lafayette, New Iberia, etc. Do not schedule out-of-town appointments after 3:00 p.m. We do not transport on Fridays (only in emergencies). The CHR's are assigned home health duties, monitoring blood sugar levels, blood pressures, etc. in the community and are not available on Friday. A parent must accompany a child 12 years old or under to medical appointments when a CHR transports. Call our nurse Pat or one of the CHRs to arrange transportation.

Insurance Update

In February the Health Department notified you requesting health insurance information. If you have not contacted the Health Department yet, please contact Angie Martin (923-9955) and give her this information. Remember, your personal health insurance pays first, and Chitimacha Indian Health Service pays last. We can not process your medical claims properly without this information.

Immunization Record Request

Indian Health Services requires the Chitimacha Health Department to report quarterly on the immunization status of all children 27 months and under. It is very important for the parents of these children to provide us with this information when requested so that the Health Department can report to IHS in a timely manner. Your cooperation with us is greatly appreciated. Thank you!

CHITIMACHA ELECTION BOARD NEWS

By Vickie Mora~Martin

The Chitimacha Election Board is announcing notice of dates and positions for the 1998 Tribal Election. The date of this year's election is on June 13, 1998 and the polling place will be at the Chitimacha Day School, which is located at 3613 Chitimacha Trail or on Hwy 326.

This year the registered tribal voters will vote for one Secretary-Treasurer position, two Councilman positions, and three School Board member positions. Current Secretary-Treasurer is Peggy D. Gaddy, current Councilmen are John P. Darden, Sr. and Toby C. Darden, and current School Board members are Jack Darden, Clifford Burgess, and Shelby Bernard.

Potential candidates for the 1998 Election may file for candidacy on May 4, 1998 thru May 8, 1998 and filing will close at 11:30 PM on May 8, 1998. Notice of those candidates who have qualified for this year's Tribal Election will be mailed to all Tribal members homes sometime after May 11, 1998. Registered Tribal voters may file candidacy papers with any Election Board member - Pam Thibodeaux, Patricia Vilcan, Carolyn Savage, or Vickie Martin. Please contact someone at the Multi-Purpose Building so they may in turn notify one of the board members. You may contact Vickie Martin at (318) 923-4114 at the Chitimacha Senior Center.

This year absentee voting will start on June 1, 1998 at midnight and will run thru June 13, 1998.

Registered tribal voters may contact Vickie Martin at the Chitimacha Senior Center at (318) 923-4114, Carolyn B. Savage at the Chitimacha Cultural Department at (318) 923-9923, Patricia Vilcan on weekends or nights at (318) 923-7352, or Pam Thibodeaux at (318) 923-2253.

JUST A REMINDER: TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THIS YEAR'S PRIMARY, YOU MUST BE REGISTERED BY MAY 29, 1998. REGISTRATION IS ALWAYS OPEN. CALL VICKIE MARTIN AT (318) 923-4114 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

JTPA NEWS

By Roxanne B. Scott

Let me begin by introducing myself. My name is Roxanne B. Scott, a Chitimacha tribal member and I reside on the Chitimacha Indian Reservation. I will be your new Inter Tribal Council of LA, Inc. Field Service Representative for the JTPA (Job Training Partnership Program).

Applications for Summer Youth Program, youths between the ages of 16 and 21 are eligible to apply, and are now being taken. My office is located in the Museum Building (please enter through the side door). The deadline for applying is May 9, 1998. Office hours are 7:30 am-5:00 pm, Monday through Thursday and from 7:30 am-11:30 am on Friday. Please call 923-2470 or come by my office to make an appointment and get a list of necessary information needed to apply. Everyone's application will be processed and placed in a job before the start of the program if all information needed is current and they meet JTPA eligibility guidelines.

I look forward to working with each and every one of you and will do my best to serve you to the best of my ability.

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

COMMUNITY HEALTH REPRESENTATIVE (CHR)

SCOPE OF WORK: The CHR will assist the Community Health Nurse in expanding, implementing and coordinating preventive health services to the Chitimacha People.

POSITION DESCRIPTION: Transport elderly, children and anyone who is in need of assistance to medical care facilities/other agencies as needed. Participate in all Health Program activities that are aimed at the community, including but not limited to: participate in fluoride program at the school, participate in diabetes and high blood pressure screening, perform routine as well as follow-up visits to all clients in the community. Other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS: High school diploma or G.E.D. preferred. Communication and reporting skills with knowledge of the tribal organization and its health services. Experience or prior training in the health field is desirable, but not required. Must have own transportation, hold valid driver's license and have liability insurance on vehicle.

TO APPLY: Submit resume to the Human Resources Specialist at the Multi-Purpose building or mail to the address listed below before the close of business, (11:30 a.m.) on Friday, May 8, 1998.

- ⇒ **PREFERENCE WILL BE GIVEN TO QUALIFIED NATIVE AMERICANS.**
- ⇒ **THIS IS A SENSITIVE POSITION, DUE TO CONTACT WITH CHILDREN AND/OR MINOR. A BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION WILL BE REQUIRED FOR THIS POSITION.**
- ⇒ **THIS IS A SAFETY - SENSITIVE POSITION AND IS SUBJECT TO RANDOM DRUG TESTING.**

**"Community Health Representative"
Human Resources Specialist
Chitimacha Tribe of LA
P O Box 661
Charenton LA 70523**

Education Services Department

*G*reetings!

The month of April, 1998 has passed by quickly and a lot of things have been happening.

I have moved to the Senior/Youth Center in an office on the Recreation side and my telephone number is (318) 923-6059. It is taking a little while to get organized. I am waiting on a shelving unit to help with the organization.

The needs in education will not wait for organization and it is full speed ahead.

I have been meeting with the School Board frequently as this is their busy season. The end of school is near and preparations for next school year is underway.

I must apologize also for being out of the office for almost two weeks recently. I regret to report that my family had a death in the family over the Easter holidays. My mother-in-law's husband passed away from cancer and of course, we, my family and I, went to be with the family.

Also, the Tribe suffered a loss with the passing of Jamie Higgins. My condolences go out to his family.

Adult Education will be ending soon and a graduation ceremony will be held later this month. Congratulations go out to those who succeed in getting their diplomas. For those that have not completed or have not entered the program please take this summer break and plan to make to attend this successful program in the fall.

Another successful program is Scholarships. We will have graduates in this area also. Ardith will announce this in her news probably next month.

There are two areas that I would like to begin work in and they are young parent education and a high school program for the teens that do not attend the Tribal School. Should you have any ideas about these two areas I would be glad to listen.

As I mentioned earlier, I have been working with the School Board on several areas. Some to the areas are: Physical & Health Education, Language Education, school facilities and budgetary items.

As all of these areas develop, I will try to keep you informed of the progress.

There is a summer computer camp being held in New Iberia for First through Sixth graders. And, there is a Summer Exploration Institute for children in grades First through Fourth. Please see the attached information in this Newsletter.

Salutations!

Anita M. Cook,
Education Services Administrator

Summer Exploration Institute:
Navigating Down Under

Join us on an adventure as we make our way Down Under. This institute will offer a multisensory, thematic approach to children who are energized by enriching, exciting, hands-on activities.

We, as professional educators, believe that a concentrated effort of topic coverage will result in first-hand, therefore life-long learning.

Location: 120 Jefferson Street
(Epiphany Day School)
New Iberia, Louisiana 70560

Cost: \$100 per child

A *non-refundable* deposit of \$40 is due with each application by June 1 to guarantee your child a spot *Down Under*. The balance must be paid on the first day of the session that your child attends.

Please mail your completed application and registration fee to:

Summer Exploration Institute
109 Nottaway Circle
Lafayette, Louisiana 70508

For more information call:
Phyllis Bartlett 981-5010
Clelie Dalton Senne 233-3737
Bridget Simoneaux 886-1254

Child's Name _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Mailing Address: _____

Home Phone/Work Phone: _____

Emergency Contact: _____

Relationship to the child: _____

Phone Number: _____

Dates: Indicate first and second choices.
[] June 15 - 19, [] June 22 - 26
[] July 6 - 10, [] July 13 - 17

Times: Indicate preference.
[] 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
[] 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Entering Grade
[] 1 [] 2 [] 3 [] 4 Age: _____

List food allergies below.

My child may be video taped. [] yes [] no

KIDS COMPUTER CAMP

Quad Technologies, Inc. will be offering a computer camp this summer for children completing Grades K - 5.

Cost: \$65.00 (Snacks and supplies provided)

Location: 1010 Progress Street, New Iberia, LA Phone (318) 367-2889

DATE	1ST & 2ND GRADE	3RD & 4TH GRADE	5TH & 6TH GRADE
June 1 - 5	8:00 - 12:00	1:00 - 4:00	-----
June 8 - 12	1:00 - 4:00	8:00 - 12:00	-----
June 15 - 19	-----	1:00 - 4:00	8:00 12:00
June 22 - 26	8:00 - 12:00	-----	1:00 - 4:00
June 29 - July 3	8:00 - 12:00	1:00 - 4:00	-----
July 6 - 10	1:00 - 4:00	8:00 - 12:00	-----
July 13 - 17	-----	1:00 - 4:00	8:00 - 13:00
July 20 - 24	8:00 - 12:00	-----	1:00 - 4:00
July 27 - 31	8:00 - 12:00	1:00 - 4:00	-----
Aug 3 - 7	1:00 - 4:00	8:00 - 12:00	-----
Aug 10 - 14	-----	1:00 - 4:00	8:00 - 12:00

NOTE: Children should enroll in session for the grade they will be enrolled in for the 1998 - 1999 school year.

Registration form to be submitted to **Quad Technologies;**
1010 Progress Street
P.O. Box 10543
New Iberia, LA 70562-0543

Child's Name: _____ Grade enrolled (1998 - 1999) _____

Date of Session: _____ Amount enclosed: **\$65** _____

Address: _____ Home phone: _____

Mother's Name: _____ Work phone: _____

Father's Name: _____

Persons authorized to pick up child: _____

CONTINUING EDUCATION NEWS:
By Ardith Soprano, Cont. Education Coordinator

Scholarship News:

INFORMATION REQUEST:

With the 1997/1998 school year ending, it is time to track the progress of our students. If you have or are a student who is:

1. Completing high school
2. Obtaining a GED
3. Graduating College (any level)

....please contact this office so that information can be forwarded to you on programs for which you may qualify.

Also, we are attempting to track our in-coming Freshman, Sophomores, and Juniors. If you have someone entering these grades, please notify me. Students at these grade levels may qualify for summer programs from various organizations. Please help me to track our students at the above levels.

Please forward this information to this office by May 29, 1998. This will allow enough time to provide information packets to the students in time for the summer.

GED News:

The GED Program is preparing to finish up for the year. It is hard to believe that a year has come and gone! The last GED class for this year will be held on May 18th at the usual time. We have had success with our program again this year. We will have three students obtain their GED's this year. We are also waiting on the exit test results for two of our other students.

For those Students planning to attend the GED Graduation ceremony, Graduation will be held on May 19, 1998. You may go by the Adult Learning Center which is located at 1013 Perret Street in Franklin between 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. to pick up your cap and gown. Bring your receipts by my office for reimbursement of your Graduation expenses. NOTE: not all expenses are eligible for reimbursement.

To our GED Graduates:
CONGRATULATIONS!!!!!!

OTHER NEWS:

CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

Justin Magee, the sixteen year old son of Georgia and Albert Magee, has been inducted into the *Sequoyah High School National Honor Society!!!!* Justin was honored at an induction banquet held on April 30, 1998.

This is Justin's second year of attendance at Sequoyah. Georgia says that she misses him very much when he is away at school but that Justin is happy and successful ...so that makes it alright. Justin, a sophomore, has expressed an interest in pursuing a degree in law.

Please join me in congratulating Justin for his accomplishments and in wishing him continued success in his educational career.

*CONGRATULATIONS JUSTIN.....
YOU MAKE US PROUD!!!!!!!!!!!!*

NOTE: Anyone interested in information on Sequoyah High School can contact my office.

ENROLLMENT NEWS:

By Ardith Soprano, Enrollment Officer

Enrollment Applications: Application for Enrollment can be obtained by calling the Enrollment Office at the above number or by writing:

Chitimacha Enrollment
P.O. Box 661
Charenton, LA 70523

Each application must include a certified copy of the applicant's birth certificate plus documentation establishing that applicant is a direct descendant of person(s) listed on the 1926 Annuity Roll and/or the 1959 Census Roll.

Change of Information: Please remember to notify the Enrollment Office of any changes in your address, phone number, or name.

If you have had a name change, please provide legal documentation of such along with a copy of your new Social Security card showing your new name.

Recreation News
By Jeri & Billy St.Blanc

The pool is now open and ready for swimming. We have extended hours to accommodate parents who want to use the pool throughout the day when lifeguards are not on duty.

Lifeguards are trained and hired through the JTPA program. The program does not begin until June 15th. (They are training at this time but can not begin work until June 15th) That leaves us without guards for over a month. In order to have the pool guarded when the summer begins, the recreation program will use previously trained guards working and volunteering hours to open for Recreation Swim Time from 1:00-4:00 P.M. Beginning May 21st the pool will be opened everyday with guards on duty from 1:00-4:00 P.M.

Please read the pool policy which we have included in this newsletter. Hopefully the policy will meet everyone needs. Remember you can swim anytime between the hours of 5:30 A.M.- 7:00 P.M. Note: **We do not have lifeguards on duty until May 21st.**

Track season ended with success. We did extremely well in the Centerville Jr. High Meet finishing 3rd out of 5 teams attending.

Morgan Martin placed 1st in the discus. **Chelsey Cook** placed 1st in the shot put and second in the discus. **Darrell Touns** ran an impressive mile at 5:58 placing 2nd. **Byron Touns** placed 6th in the discus and shot put. **Jolby Schexnaider** finished 6th in the 100 meter dash. **Arielle Darden** placed 4th in the long jump. **Adrianna** ran the mile run finishing 2nd while **Arielle Darden** finished 4th. **Adrianna** also ran the 800 meters and finished 4th. **Tasia Bernard** ran the 100 meter dash finishing 4th. It was a successful meet to end our track season.

Once again Chitimacha will represent St.Mary Parish in the Louisiana Fitness Meet in Baton Rouge. The meet is held on May 16th at LSU. The parishes across the state send their best 3 eleven year old girls and boys to compete in 7 events. This year, **Jolby Schexnaider, Matthew Darden, Arielle Darden** and **Adrianna Bernard** will represent the parish. Although we are only sending 1 eleven year old, the younger kids can definitely hold their own.

The Hershey Meet is fast approaching and is set for June 27th. The state meet will be held in Lafayette. Children between the ages of 8-15 are eligible to participate. Last year we were honored to have **Chelsey Cook** make it to the National Meet in Pennsylvania and place 3rd the Nation.

Golf begins this month. Several kids have acquired clubs and are anxious to begin. We have two practice nets set up if anyone is interested in working on their swing. Also we have put in two practice holes for chipping. You are welcome to use them. Although it is not golf course quality it will serve it's purpose. The kids will be traveling to Franklin to practice at Broken Pine.

The baseball backstop has been moved behind the school. It's a great area to play wiffle ball, cabbage ball or kick ball. It may be a little short for our sluggers but the fenced in area is a safe place for the younger kids to play.

We hope to clean up the basketball court this summer and paint some lines and maybe a couple of 4-square courts.

This summer is really looking great for activities for the kids. If we get the help that we plan on getting from JTPA, we will open the gym each morning and supervise some activities in the area behind the school.

Swimming lessons are set for June 15-26. Infant through adult will be offered. As soon as the lessons are organized into levels, I will set up a registration date.

Swim Team is still in planning stages. I will teach the competitive strokes through swimming lessons. We will start slowly this year with only a few meets.

Most of the baseball teams have begun except for T-Ball which starts a little later. If you are interested in T-Ball, call me and I will put your name on the list and call as soon as I get more information.

Our Little League team began the season with a pre-season tournament. We won our first game and lost our second. Below is a schedule of our season games.

May 4 - 7:30	May 11- 7:30
May 14 - 6:00	May 18- 6:00
May 20 - 6:00	May 25- 7:30
May 28 - 6:00	June 2- 6:00
June 3 - 6:00	June 8- 6:00
June 9- 6:00	

Most of the teams are playing now. If you can come out and watch. You can catch one of teams playing Monday-Thursday at the Baldwin City Park.

Remember, call if I can assist you with a fitness program or help you with any questions you have regarding Recreation or Fitness.

Family & Fitness Policy

No Lifeguard on Duty - Swim at your own risk!

Attendant will be on duty

Hours 5:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Chitimacha participants may bring **one** guest beginning May 21.

Swimmer's may not interfere with fitness activities (aerobics, senior water walking, etc.)

You must be **18 years or older** to enter Pool area, unless with an adult that is responsible for both your behavior and safety.

An adult may sign in **3 persons** under the age of 18 that are **not** members of their **immediate family living in their household**. The adult will be responsible for the safety of the persons they sign in and must remain with the minors during the stay of the visit.

You must sign in before entering Pool; you must also sign for the persons under 18 in your group. If one person from your group is asked to leave pool area, **all in your group must leave**.

The attendant will require you to leave for the following reasons:

- Damaging Property
- Intoxication
- Profane or Abusive Language
- Lewd/Sexual Behavior
- Harassing Attendant or other swimmers
- Diving
- Any other dangerous or objectionable act

Upon first visit to pool you must review and sign a disclaimer with the above policy clearly stated.

I have read the above policy and fully understand that I have sole responsibility for the safety, and behavior of myself and of all those I sign in my group:

Signature of Responsible Adult

Date

Chitimacha Aquatic Facility

"the health and safety of our patrons is our top priority..."

1998 Summer Operation Schedule

Monday thru Friday

5:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.	Adult Exercise (18 or older)
9:30 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.	Swimming Lessons (June 15 - 26) Pool will be closed while lessons are in progress.
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Recreational Swimming (Begins May 21) - Lifeguards on duty (Guards will clear pool before leaving duty.)
4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Adult Swimming/Employee Fitness/Aqua Jogging/Lap swimming (swimmers must not interfere with exercise participants.)
5:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.	Family Swimming - No Lifeguards on duty (1 p.m. - 4 p.m. only)

Saturday and Sunday

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Recreational Swimming -Lifeguards on duty (Beginning May 21, Tribal Members may bring one guest. You are responsible for your guest.)
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Family Swimming
4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	(No Lifeguards on duty from 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.)

Please Note:

(Lifeguard training - Pool will be closed two days in order to train Lifeguards)

CHITIMACHA CULTURAL EXCHANGE DAY

The Chitimacha 4-H Club, in conjunction with the Chitimacha Cultural Department, recently sponsored a "Cultural Exchange Day" on the campus of the Chitimacha Tribal School. The activity was held on Friday, April 24th and lasted the entire day. Students from area schools were invited to come and participate in several activities that the Chitimacha students regularly practice. Some 54 students and 9 adults attended. Eight stations were set up around the campus, and groups of students rotated every 25 minutes to participate in all of the various activities. All of the guests were expected to not only look at each process, but to actually get involved and experience them. The focus of the entire day was to allow the Chitimacha students to show the visiting students "what to do" and "how to do it"... students teaching students. Adults were present to supervise each station, but the students themselves were encouraged to teach each other.

The first station involved making beef jerky. Students at this station learned how to mix the marinade and how to cut up the beef. Sirloin was used because of its superior ability to hold together, and because of its low fat content. If too much fat is present in the meat, it will quickly turn rancid and become inedible. The students also learned that all of the meat must be cut into uniform strips so it will cure properly and evenly. The wood used to smoke the meat was pecan, giving the jerky a slightly sweet flavor. The smokehouse used was one the Chitimacha students had built earlier this year for the specific purpose of making jerky. This entire process normally takes two to three days to complete. Mrs. Monique Darden was in charge of this station and was on hand to guide the visitors, answer questions about the process, and hand out samples.

The second station was making cane syrup. 150 pounds of raw cane sugar was dissolved into four gallons of water and heated slowly to complete the super-saturation process. Saragassa yeast is then added to the mixture and allowed to sit overnight. This changes the sucrose into glucose, and the syrup is then heated to 210 degrees to kill the yeast. Several of the students were able to see just how big an undertaking this process really is and were also able to take some of the syrup home with them. Everyone who tasted the cane syrup enjoyed it. Many of the students at the Chitimacha school have gone through this process several times and claim to be able to make it on their own, but Mrs. Carla Newman was still on hand to oversee the process and supervise the students.

The third station was making traditional Native American pottery. Mrs. Ardith Soprano and Molly Chiasson was on hand to help guide the students at this station. Guests were able to form their own small pottery shapes and decorate them using garfish scales, bones and various other tools. Many created designs that were a blend of traditional patterns and modern ones. The students did not realize that it takes over 30 days to allow the pottery to dry! They were able to take their beautiful creations home with them.

The next station was making cracklins! Mr. Joey Bernard was on hand to explain this process, and the students were given the opportunity to stir the strips of pigskin frying in the large cast iron pot. Many were amazed at how long this process took--over three hours from start to finish. They turned out just right, and everyone was able to sample their handiwork.

The visitors took a lunch break and were treated to Native American style food. Indian hamburgers, corn on the cob, beans, and fruit were served. The burgers were made using a similar recipe handed down from the southeastern tribes of the United States. Ground meat was seasoned, browned, and rolled into a special dough. It was then deep-fried to cook the dough and allowed to cool. The corn on the cob was soaked in salt water for two hours, then cooked over a hot fire. The shucks were left on the cob to allow the corn to steam itself. Students just had to peel back the shucks and dig in. Mr. Steve Nugent, the Chitimacha 4-H leader, claims that the teamwork of the cooking crew made the lunch such a success. Nola Darden, Pat Vilcan, Billy St. Blanc, Patrick Simoneaux, Sheila Gaddy, Lee Ann LeBlanc, Darlene Toups, Jeff Lancon, O'Niell Darden, and Carolyn Savage were all responsible for preparing the lunches. They all deserve medals for cooking the large quantity of food that they cooked, as they cooked enough traditional food for the guests in addition to the regular population of the school.

The next station was divided into two parts: Making drums and brain tanning. Since deer hides were used by Indians for clothing, ropes, carrying pouches and drumheads, the students were able to witness some of this versatility firsthand. The deerskins had to be scraped free of any meaty tissue using sharp tools. The Chitimacha of long ago used shells and bones for this process. Next, the hides had to be "broken" by pounding the skin with blue sticks, usually for at least four to six hours. Cow brains were used to pound into the skins. This is to make the hide more pliable, and also to work the brain tissue into the hide. The skin must then be smoked by holding it over a low fire for at least an hour. Each of the steps

to brain tanning had to be abbreviated to accommodate the short schedule of the students, but all were amazed at the way the Indians used the fatty tissue of the animal brains to preserve the hides. Drumstock hides are not broken to the extent of a hide used for clothing. This is to insure that the hide dries very tightly across the head of the drum.

Several cross-sections of cypress were available for the students to shape into drums. They had to use hatchets and mallets to peel the outer layer from the tree sections. This outer layer is soft and spongy, and cannot be used for drums, only the inner heartwood is strong enough to hold the cylindrical shape needed for a drum. Indians often had to burn the inner core of the drum out slowly. Steve Nugent was on hand to supervise this station. Most of the students were eager to participate in both the drum shaping and brain tanning. They were surprised to discover that the tanning process took three to five days to complete, and that drum making usually took from six to ten days, depending on the size of the drum.

The sixth station involved making dreamcatchers. Although this activity is not native to south Louisiana, it is one that the students enjoyed doing. Chitimacha children brought in dozens of willow twigs and wove them into loops for their guests to use. The fourth graders and a few 7th and 8th graders were in charge of this station. Hundreds of beads and several yards of twine were on hand for the 4-H'ers to use. Dreamcatchers were used by some Indian tribes to stave off nightmares and other bad dreams. The students took their creations home with them.

The next station involved beadwork. Mrs. Kim Walden and several Chitimacha students showed how to string beaded necklaces, bracelets, earrings, and such. This was a favorite for all of the visiting students! They also had a chance to sit down and visit while they worked on their beads. Many wanted to stay longer than the allotted 25 minutes.

The last station involved making a section of a native Chitimacha hut. Large bamboo poles were driven into the ground about six to eight inches apart. Smaller bamboo poles were used to weave in and out of the standing poles, again at about six to eight inch intervals. Next, students had to mix Spanish moss, river clay, and water together with their bare feet to make the mortar for the walls. They had great fun squishing the mud and moss between their toes. The mud mortar was then plastered to the bamboo framework and allowed to dry. This style hut was for the winter, and was able to be constructed in only one day. The students were also able to construct a section of a summer hut by weaving palmetto leaves

into a similar bamboo framework. Francine Broussard and Franklin High student, Neka Savage, helped in this area.

Mr. Nugent was very pleased at the turnout for their first Cultural Exchange Day. This entire project was sparked by the 4-H students' eagerness to share what they do with other 4-Hers in the area. As the preparation got underway, it was soon clear that it would take more manpower than the club could handle. The entire fifth through eighth grade classes were used as well as numerous parents and school staff members to host the event. Mr. Nugent and the students would like to establish a "goodwill link" to other schools in the hopes that representatives from each could be invited to each other's similar activities. The entire Chitimacha staff feels that this exchange is a terrific way to instill social skills and develop leadership and communication qualities in our youth. It also had one side effect ... patience. Nugent noted that the students who visited, as well as those who hosted, were able to realize the time frames involved in each of the activities. "I noticed many of the remarks made by the kids regarding the time it took to make things. They didn't realize it took so long and so much skill to accomplish! We take so many things for granted in today's world. When you need an item, you rush to the store and purchase it, never thinking of what went into the production of that item, whether it is food, clothing, jewelry, or the like. Today's youth are growing up in an 'instant gratification world' where problems are solved in minutes." Nugent maintained "The stations the students worked were conceived in an effort to make them culturally relevant. Not just Chitimacha, but South Louisiana relevant. Acadiana has one of the most colorful and beautiful cultures in the nation. If our children grow up without the knowledge of their heritage, then we, the adults, are to blame. An effort must be initiated by the elders and adults of a community if a culture is to survive the test of time. Cultural Exchange Day was an event designed to instill cultural pride, cooperation, and teamwork among students of any school."

Mr. Nugent and Mrs. Walden would like to thank the Chitimacha students and staff members who helped, as well as the numerous volunteers who pitched in and made the event a success. Thanks also to Research Coordinator, Melanie Marcotte, for filming the entire event and to the students and adult leaders from other schools which participated. The schools which joined in on the fun were Centerville (Junior High), Franklin Junior High, Hanson (Junior High), LaGrange, St. John Elementary, and the Children's Community School in Scott. We hope your day with us was informative and enjoyable. Waxtuygi!

NEWS FROM THE PAST

By: Melanie Marcotte

Early in 1906, the Chitimacha recognized the need for educating their people. Prompted by murders that had occurred on the reservation in the year 1901, Chief Benjamin Paul realized that the only hope at survival in the white world was to send the young people of the Tribe to Carlisle Indian School. This school, located in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, had been opened in the year 1869 for federally recognized Native Americans, closing its doors for the final time in the year 1918. Twenty-one students from the Chitimacha Tribe went to Carlisle, ranging in age from 10 to 24 years of age, all enrolled for a mandatory 5 year term. Some of the children tried to run away but were caught and returned to the school for the completion of their term. One Chitimacha child died while at Carlisle from pneumonia. But, upon return, the Chitimacha students had acquired reading and writing skills, and also learned a trade which was put to use as a means of supporting themselves and their families.

Chitimacha children were not allowed to receive an education at the local public schools, due to their race. The Catholic nuns here in Charenton had opened up a small school for the Indian and black children, funded by the Church. This school was located right off of the reservation. But, again, unrest and prejudice made education a virtual impossibility.

In 1932, Chitimacha Chief Ernest "Papa Jack" Darden, father of 11 children, opened up the front room of his home as a classroom. He realized that the only hope for surviving in a white society the Chitimacha had was in educating the children. Emile Stouff's wife, a non-Chitimacha, taught the twenty children each day. In an article written by the Rev. Marchel Gaudet in April, 1934, a small section along with photographs was told of the Chitimacha efforts at education. The following is an excerpt from this article.

"The government made no provision for a school. The Indians were anxious to secure to their children at least the rudiments of an education. Debarred from attending the white schools, the young white woman married into the tribe undertook to teach the smaller children, even though she had no teacher-training.

One of the Indians offered a room in his home to be used as a classroom. 'Here', said the sister, 'we found twenty little ones in first, second, third and fourth grade.

I saw no chairs, no desks; there was a table. The little class was sitting on the floor.

The teacher and pupils greeted us with sweetest grace and utmost poise. The children are well-mannered, and altogether winsome. We visited their homes and found them spotless. We took home with us a delightful impression of these charming people; the only regret we feel, in thinking of our visit there, is the evident need of school facilities, which we are unable to supply."

Living conditions were hard for the Chitimacha, even after attaining Federal recognition in 1919. The tribal interest shared, the first sign of hope for a better existence for members of the Tribe in the future, caused the elders of the Tribe to push for a Tribal school. In light of these conditions, the importance of the establishment of the Tribal Day School is understandable. The school was the only "benefit" the Chitimacha received because they were Indians, hard won, with many letters being written to the BIA and Department of the Interior for a school for their children. Then in 1934, Chitimacha Day School No. 78 was founded. Donated by the people of Louisiana, the building, a one room condemned black school building, was brought onto the Chitimacha Reservation by St. Mary Parish officials. Federal agencies provided financial support, state and local educational officials supervised the curriculum, and a home economics teacher, Mrs. Heloise Fay Delahoussay, left her teaching position in nearby Franklin to become the only teacher through the first ten years of the school's operation.

Mrs. Delahoussay made enormous contributions, offering not only academic courses, but also sewing and cooking instruction. She inspired the Chitimacha adults on reservation to participate in the instructions. Pauline Paul, an elder of the Tribe, taught basket making classes. Gardens were made with the help of the men of the Tribe, the children tended the garden, and the food grown was then canned and used to feed the children in school. The men also provided the labor to set up a pump, install a wood stove heater, repair flooring and walls, and provided general maintenance and upkeep. With the involvement of the adults, the children's interest in an education was stimulated, and the students began finishing on schedule by 1940, when seven received primary school graduate certificates. As the first classes finished, few graduates were able to enter high school, as World War II broke out and many of the boys enlisted in the Armed Forces. Mrs. Delahoussay spoke with the graduates from each class, however, and sent the names of those who wished to enter high school to the Superintendent of the Choctaw Agency

in Philadelphia, Mississippi. His office then arranged for their enrollment in Haskell Institute, in Kansas. By the time the war had ended, several had applied to the school and begun to lead the way toward secondary and higher education.

From the school's founding in 1934 to 1950, tribal members worked on the schools physical improvement. The original structure needed many repairs and interior decorations. Before their school could meet minimum standards, tribal members had to provide a water supply, build a fence around the school grounds, put in a heater and install bathroom facilities. For nearly fifteen years the Tribe concentrated upon basic necessities, which gave them little time to work on the problem of accommodating increasing enrollments in the future.

By the end of the 1940's tribal leaders could see that a one-room, one-teacher facility could not suffice for long. Over the previous decade, enrollments had ranged from eighteen to thirty students. As the population of the reservation was growing, the Tribe knew it would not be long before new arrangements would have to be made. During the later part of 1940, tribal councilmen opened discussions with the Charenton school board about the possibility of transferring all grade school children from the reservation to parish schools. This would mean closing the Chitimacha Day School and the Government would pay tuition for Chitimacha children in public schools in lieu of taxes. It appeared that most Chitimacha's were willing to accept this solution, and the Day School might have closed, except a problem arose. The Charenton School Board rejected the proposal, as well as the suggestion that Chitimacha's might begin to enroll in the high school in Franklin. Integration had not progressed sufficiently for the non-Indian people of St. Mary Parish to accept Indians in their schools.

In the next twenty years, between 1950 and 1970, the idea of closing the Day School came up on at least two more occasions. In 1953 the Assistant BIA Director and the Area School Director wanted to shut it down as part of their drive to terminate federal services to the Tribe. In 1963, a Superintendent from the Choctaw Agency came to the reservation to talk with both Indian parents and parish school officials about the termination of the Day School and the integration of Chitimacha children into parish schools.

On both occasions, the federal attempts failed. The non-Indians had come to accept it, but now the Chitimacha was opposed to this idea. A combination of anti-termination sentiment and pride in the Chitimacha's accomplishments had caused the Tribe to change their mind. While some Chitimacha's had enrolled in a

Catholic parochial school and some of the parish schools outside of Charenton, no Chitimacha's had ever attended the Charenton Public School and it seemed improbable that any of them wanted to. The pride in the Day School was quite evident and the majority of the Chitimacha wanted the school to continue on in its present status.

In 1957, Chitimachas Leslie Proctor, Michael Burgess and Ethel Vilcan graduated from the seventh grade at Chitimacha Day School. Ethel Vilcan went on to Hanson, a parochial school in Franklin, with Michael Burgess and Leslie going to Crowell Elementary Public School in Franklin. But, once again, the transition was not an easy one. Mr. Burgess's parents, prior to his entry into Crowell Elementary, had to go before the School Board and get permission for their son to ride the bus from the reservation. This posed a problem, for in those days the school bus was the only means of transportation available to the Chitimacha children. They were able to obtain permission, being given a card that he had to present showing that he was able to ride the bus. Mr. Proctor, who lived off reservation, had been enrolled and attending classes for approximately three weeks when he was called into the principals office, getting to school by means of the school bus. He was told that his school records from the Day School had arrived, and upon realizing that he was Indian, was told that he could no longer attend public school and was sent home. In the fall of 1957 Chitimacha parents again met with the School Board and obtained the right to have their children ride the school bus as well as attend the local public school. The two young men, Michael Burgess and Leslie Proctor, went on to complete their education at Franklin Senior High School, being the first two Chitimacha Day School Graduates to graduate from the public school system in 1962.

By the 1960's, Chitimacha students who had graduated from the Day School have attended high school in Haskell, Kansas, at the local high school, or in recent years the Charenton Public School. A small group of Chitimacha students, Norma LeBlanc, Alton LeBlanc, Cheris Burgess, Brenda Bernard, Terry Martin and Peggy Darden went to the Mississippi Choctaw Indian School in Philadelphia, Mississippi. This group of students was the first out of state Native Americans to board at the Choctaw School, making history once again. Alton LeBlanc went on to graduate from Choctaw in 1972.

In 1968, word was given to the Chitimacha from the office on the Commissioner of Indian Affairs that the Chitimacha had to organize a constitutional government, to shape the course of their own future, in the spirit of "self-determination". Chairman Leonard Stouff, Vice-Chairman Leroy Burgess, Secretary-Treasurer Leslie

Proctor, and Councilmen Alvin Vilcan and Archie Vilcan drafted a constitution and by-laws. The final draft went before the tribe's general council on November 7, 1970 and was voted for approval by the Chitimacha people. The Constitution and By-Laws of the Chitimacha Tribe then received approval from the Secretary of the Interior on January 14, 1971, on that date becoming the only organized Tribe in the state of Louisiana.

Knowing that most of the people on the reservation wanted to keep the Day School open, Tribal Councilmen who took charge of the Tribal government in the early 1970's began working vigorously for its enlargement. Chief Leonard Stouff appealed to congressmen for funding to construct a new building, using the argument that enrollment had reached about fifty. He was not successful in his appeals to raise money, but it did generate interest. When Leroy Burgess became Chairman in 1971, he made more moderate requests for the construction of additional classrooms. This brought results. In 1972 a temporary classroom building was added as well as a Title 1 classroom building in 1973. Although Chief Burgess felt that the Day School could provide sound instruction for Chitimacha students in the immediate future, he continued to search for funds to accomplish the plans of the previous council - the construction of a whole new educational facility. In 1974 Chief Burgess and Councilman Leslie Proctor traveled to Washington, the intention, to meet with the Louisiana Congressional Delegation for the purpose of getting letters of support for a new school and an Indian Health Services Program. The two men went door to door to each Senator and Congressman, acquired the letters of support, then took those letters to the BIA. On that same day, they acquired Federal funding for the now standing Chitimacha Tribal School.

Dedication ceremonies for the Chitimacha Day School was on August 26, 1978. The school had been in operation for twenty years now, with more additions being made in recent years. The Chitimacha Tribal Chairman and Tribal Council still place top priority to the educational needs of its students. The Chitimacha School Board is comprised of five members. The President of the School Board, great-grandson to Chief Ernest "Papa Jack" Darden, is Jack Darden. Recognizing the value of education and continuing the legacy started by his great-grandfather, Mr. Darden and the school board members work closely with the Tribal Council for the proper implementation of the Tribes goals and objectives for education. The School Board's responsibilities are varied, from policy setting to working with the School Principal to make responsible decisions based on educational needs of community students and the reviewing of new technology and innovative ways to bring

new methods and technology for the enhancement of education. As Mr. Darden has stated, "The Chitimacha School Boards primary objective is to continue making good sound decisions that will enhance our ability to provide the best educational facility for our people. The Board is diligently working to prepare for the competitive world of the 21st century."

Ardith Burgess Soprano, daughter of former Tribal Chairman Leroy Burgess, is the Scholarship Coordinator and Enrollment Officer for the Chitimacha. In 1993 the Chitimacha Educational Grant Program was developed, utilizing tribal funding for college education of Chitimacha students. Prior to 1993, minimal scholarship funding available through the BIA. The Tribe, with education a priority, developed the Student Aid Program which incorporates the BIA Scholarship Program and the Tribal Grants Program. The specific intent of the Student Aid Program is to ensure that those students who desire to further their education will have the opportunity to do so with Tribal support. A Scholarship Committee is in place, comprised of 5 members appointed by the Tribal Council, whose responsibility is to oversee program compliance, making decisions on eligibility, program changes and revisions. An important aspect of this program is that all college students funded through the Tribal Grants program must do community service hours for the Tribe, working with elder programs, research, cultural and other tribal entities. It is designed to have the student recognize that as the Tribe has pride in its students, the students by working in this program enrich and strengthen their own cultural identity by giving back to its people.

From the small, determined and humble start of education here on the Chitimacha Reservation, children who attended the Chitimacha Day School have gone on to become leaders of their people, lawyers, dentists, doctors, nurses, teachers, business administrators, director's of Tribal programs, Tribal Councilmen and Tribal Chairman. The ancestors of the Chitimacha, whose vision has lead the Tribe to where it is today, has been immortalized by the following stated mission, philosophy and belief statements:

"Chitimacha Tribal School's basic purpose is the development of Chitimacha students who are capable of effectively participating in tribal, local, state and world affairs. It is the intention of the Chitimacha School to prepare students who can meet challenges and assume responsible roles within the family and community, to promote tribal self-determination, and make positive contributions to the society in which they live. The development of such individuals begins with teaching good citizenship, preservation of cultural heritage, and above all, the essentials of superior education."

Healthier Fast Food Choices
By Leslie Fontenot, Registered Dietitian

As summer approaches, many of us will find ourselves eating more “Fast Food” items. Fast Foods help to add both variety and time savings to our often too busy schedules. From a nutrition stand point, there are 3 common problem scenarios that can prevent Fast Foods from fitting into a healthy eating style.

- * when we eat fast food too often (e.g., every day for lunch)
- * when we overeat (e.g., we supersize the fries and drink)
- * when we don’t balance out high fat choices with lower fat choices throughout our day

The following is a list of some lower fat and more nutritious Fast Food choices:

<i>Wendy’s Garden Veggie Pita</i>	<i>Subway’s Turkey, Club, or Ham Salad</i>
<i>Wendy’s Garden Ranch Chicken Pita</i>	<i>Arby’s Light Roast Chicken Deluxe</i>
<i>Wendy’s Chicken Caesar Pita</i>	<i>Arby’s Light Roast Turkey Deluxe</i>
<i>Wendy’s Grilled Chicken Sandwich</i>	<i>Arby’s Light Roast Beef Deluxe</i>
<i>Wendy’s Grilled Chicken Salad</i>	<i>Arby’s Roast Chicken Salad</i>
<i>Wendy’s Broccoli & Cheese Baked Potato</i>	<i>Arby’s Grilled Chicken BBQ</i>
<i>Wendy’s Bacon & Cheese Baked Potato</i>	<i>Hardee’s Grilled Chicken Sandwich</i>
<i>Wendy’s Sour Cream & Chives Baked Potato</i>	<i>Hardee’s Grilled Chicken Salad</i>
<i>Subway’s Chicken or Turkey Sub</i>	<i>McDonald’s Grilled Chicken Salad</i>
<i>Subway’s Turkey and Ham Sub</i>	<i>McDonald’s Grilled Chicken Salad</i>
<i>Subway’s Veggie Delite Sub</i>	<i>Dairy Queen’s Grilled Chicken Sandwich</i>
<i>Subway’s Roast Beef Sub</i>	<i>Taco Bell’s Bean Burrito</i>
<i>Subway’s Club or Ham Sub</i>	<i>KFC’s BBQ Flavored Chicken Sandwich</i>
<i>Subway’s Tuna Sub, made with light mayo</i>	
<i>Subway’s Roast Beef or Chicken Salad</i>	

The above foods are even better choices when prepared with less cheese, less mayo, less oil, and low-fat or fat-free dressing and other toppings.

Please make a note and mark your calendars for the health department’s fun activities planned for this summer. On Wednesday July 15, the health department will host a breakfast from 7-9 am. At that time, the nurse, and staff will be performing diabetes screenings and nutrition counseling. Also, on Tuesday July 28, the health department will be hosting a Fun Walk that will include diabetes foot screenings and prizes for the walkers. Both events are FREE and more details are available by calling the health department at 923-9955.

Yard-Of-The-Month - Newsletter - May 1998
By Carolyn B. Savage

As of April, we now have a five member Yard-Of-The-Month Committee. Currently, O'Neal Darden is the Chairman, Kimberly Walden is the Vice-Chairman, Carolyn Savage is the Secretary and Rachel Dugas is the Researcher. If any of you are interested in serving on this committee, please submit your name to the committee by calling 923-7583.

Periodically, as openings become available new members will be randomly selected from names submitted. There are two vacancies on the committee as I will be leaving the committee. Please submit names by May 29.

The object of this program is to encourage more people to take an interest in beautifying their yards.

Judging will be done the last week of each month and all of the homes on the reservation will be considered.

The winner will be notified the first week of each month. A beautiful sign will be placed in their yard and will remain there until the first week of the next month. The winner can choose between a \$100 gift certificate from Lowe's or a \$100 check donated by our Tribal Council. The Cypress Bayou Casino has donated a plaque which will be presented to the family and it will be theirs to keep. The plaque was made by the Chitimacha 4-H club. Also, a picture of the winning family in their yard will be put in the newsletter. *(Editor: Sorry, my scanner is out-of-order for submitting a picture of this month's winner. I will possibly be submitting a picture in next month's newsletter).*

Yard of the month selection will be from May through October. You can win only one time during this period.

Judging is based on neatness and overall appearance. Judges come from a business in Franklin. They were given a map of the reservation with the lot numbers on it. They don't know us and we don't know who is coming to judge or when they're coming except that it is during the last week of the month.

The first selection has been made. We would like to announce that the winner for the month of May is Rachel and Jonathan Dugas of 126 Choctaw St. Their beautiful blooming roses across the front of their house were certainly eye-catchers along with the swaying weeping willow tree in the front yard. Congratulations to both of you.

The judges said they were impressed with our community. They thought it was beautiful and we should all be very proud.

TIPS FROM RACHEL

Pruning - Spring flowering shrubs should be pruned after flowering. Thin from within the center rather than shearing the plant, which destroys the natural form. Be sure to prune azaleas, if needed, by the end of June to preserve next year's buds.

Mulching - Mulch plants to reduce watering, suppress weed growth, and minimize soil temperature changes. Excellent mulches are pine straw, cypress mulch and pine bark.

SUMMER TIME YOUTH PROGRAM

- ◆ The Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana is looking for approximately 18 part-time summer workers to complete cleanup projects around the reservation.
- ◆ Duties Include:
 - ☞ Grass cutting
 - ☞ Raking
 - ☞ Trash collection
- ◆ Supervision and direction will be provided by responsible adults.
- ◆ Available to all 14 and older who reside on reservation and are eligible for Health Services.
 - ☞ Approximately six week program.
 - ☞ Pay is minimum wage.
 - ☞ Hours are Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- ◆ Required:
 - ☞ Birth certificate or drivers license
 - ☞ Social Security Card
- ◆ To Sign Up: Please contact the Human Resources Specialist before the close of business (11:30 a.m.) on Friday, May 22, 1998, at the multi-purpose building or by mail to the address below.

"Summer Time Youth Program"
Human Resources Specialist
Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana
P.O. Box 661
Charenton, LA 70523
(318) 923-4973



CHITIMACHA SENIOR PROGRAM CALENDAR
DAILY MENU SCHEDULE
MAY 1998

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				May 1, 1998 Tuna Fish, Tator Tots, Chips, and Fruit
May 4, 1998 Smothered Steak, Red Beans, Rice, Asparagus, Rolls, and Dessert Activity: Lil Bingo	May 5, 1998 Fried Chicken, Cream Potatoes, Sweet Peas, Salad, Rolls, and Dessert Activity: Lil Bingo	May 6, 1998 Breakfast Groundmeat Spaghetti, Potato Salad, Garlic Bread, and Dessert Activity: Lil Bingo	May 7, 1998 Pork Roast, Lima Beans, Rice, Yams, Salad, Rolls, and Dessert Activity: Shopping	May 8, 1998 Shrimp Jambalaya, Corn, Salad, Rolls, and Dessert
May 11, 1998 Meatloaf, Cheese Potatoes, Carrots, Rolls, and Dessert Activity: Lil Bingo	May 12, 1998 Smothered Chicken, Rice, Green Beans, Salad, Rolls, and Dessert Activity: Lil Bingo	May 13, 1998 Breakfast Beef Roast, Rice, White Beans, Salad, Rolls, and Dessert Activity: LilBingo	May 14, 1998 Pork Ribs, Rice, Blackeye Peas, Squash, Rolls, and Dessert Activity: Shopping	May 15, 1998 Fried Fish, Hush Puppies, Potato Salad, Rolls, and Dessert
May 18, 1998 Fried Chicken, Macaroni N Cheese, Corn, Salad, Rolls, and Dessert Activity: Lil Bingo	May 19, 1998 Meatballs w/tomato gravy, White Beans, Rice, cabbage, Rolls, and Dessert Activity: Lil Bingo	May 20, 1998 Breakfast Pork Chops, Cream Potatoes, Sweet Peas, Salad, Rolls, and Dessert Activity: Reg Bingo	May 21, 1998 Beef Stew, Rice, Green Beans, Salad, Rolls, and Dessert Activity: Shopping	May 22, 1998 Crawfish Stew, Rice, Salad, Cauliflower, Rolls, and Dessert
May 25, 1998 HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSED MEMORIAL DAY Activity:	May 26, 1998 Baked Ham, White Beans, Rice, Squash, Rolls, and Dessert Activity: Lil Bingo	May 27, 1998 Breakfast Smothered Steak, Rice, Green Beans, Salad, Rolls, and Dessert Activity: Lil Bingo	May 28, 1998 Smothered Meatballs, Rice, Blackeye Peas, Cabbage, Rolls, and Dessert Activity: Shopping	May 29, 1998 Hot Dogs, Tator Tots, Chips, and Dessert
MAY 1998 BIRTHDAYS				
<i>Mary Boudreaux</i> <i>Bert Burgess</i>	<i>May 11</i> <i>May 20</i>	<i>Charles Olds</i> <i>Helen Marcotte</i>	<i>May 17</i> <i>May 25</i>	<i>Alice Darden</i> <i>Pat Mora</i>
				<i>May 18</i> <i>May 27</i>
HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU AND HAVE MANY MORE!!				

**CHITIMACHA TRIBAL SCHOOL
DAILY MENU SCHEDULE
MAY 1998**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				May 1, 1998 BREAKFAST: Bagel, Canadian Bacon, Juice & Milk LUNCH: Baked Chicken, Pork & Beans, Fruit, Roll, Milk
May 4, 1998 BREAKFAST: Cinnamon Rolls, Cheese Sticks, Juice, Milk LUNCH: Corn Dogs, Tator Tots, Salad, Fruit, Milk, Cookie	May 5, 1998 BREAKFAST: Eggs, Bagel, Juice, Milk LUNCH: Baked Chicken, Winter Mix, Salad, Fruit, Roll, Milk	May 6, 1998 BREAKFAST: Cereal, Hash Browns, Juice, Milk LUNCH: Nachos, Salad, Fruit, Cake, Milk	May 7, 1998 BREAKFAST: Pancakes, Sausage, Juice, Milk LUNCH: Baked Turkey, Rice Dressing, Yams, Fruit, Roll, Milk	May 8, 1998 BREAKFAST: Biscuit, Sausage, Juice, Milk LUNCH: Ham Sandwich, Lettuce, Tomatoes, Fruit, Cookie, Milk
May 11, 1998 BREAKFAST: Grits, Sausage, Juice, Milk LUNCH: White Beans w/Rice, Sausage, Salad, Fruit, Roll, Milk	May 12, 1998 BREAKFAST: Cheese, Toast, Juice, Milk LUNCH: Chili Mac, Sweet Peas, Fruit, Cornbread, Milk	May 13, 1998 BREAKFAST: Cereal, Toast, Juice, Milk LUNCH: Turkey Salad, Lettuce, Tomatoes, Fruit, Cookie, Milk	May 14, 1998 BREAKFAST: Blueberry Muffins, Cheese Sticks, Juice, Milk LUNCH: Round Steak w/Rice, Blackeye Peas, Fruit, Roll, Milk	May 15, 1998 FIELD DAY: BREAKFAST: Biscuits, Sausage, Juice, Milk LUNCH: Pizza, Fruit, Milk
May 18, 1998 BREAKFAST: Waffles, Sausage, Juice, Milk LUNCH: Spaghetti, Salad, Fruit, Roll, Milk	May 19, 1998 BREAKFAST: Cereal, Toast, Juice, Milk LUNCH: Chicken Stew, Green Beans, Salad, Fruit, Milk	May 20, 1998 BREAKFAST: Biscuits, Sausage, Juice, Milk LUNCH: Hot Dogs, French Fries, Salad, Fruit, Milk	May 21, 1998 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL! NO MEAL SERVED REPORT CARDS PICKED UP	

MAY EVENTS CALENDAR

May 5th, 1998 - Early Release - 1:00 P.M. - Teacher In-Service

May 15th, 1998 - Field Day

May 16th, 1998 - Prom

May 19th, 1998 - 8th Grade Luncheon &

Pre-K Graduation/Awards Ceremony 1:00 P.M.

May 20th, 1998 - Kindergarten & 8th Grade Graduation

May 21th, 1998 - Report Cards



COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Call Debbie @ 318 923-4973 to place an Ad

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations go out to Cesar and Melissa Andujo on the recent adoption of two children. Melissa is formerly known as Missy Burgess. She is the youngest daughter of Bert and Ruth Burgess. Micah, age 7, was adopted on May 13, 1997. Caleb, age 4, was adopted on March 3, 1998. Both of the boys say "I want to be just like my daddy when I grow up". Cesar is a Sergeant in the U.S. Army. The family is currently stationed at Ft. Campbell, KY, but are expecting orders to move in May.

MARY ANN

NOTICE!!! NOTICE!!! NOTICE!!!

The Chitimacha Housing Authority is seeking three (3) tribal members, who are interested, to sit on a fact-finding committee for the new "Elderly Assited Living Development". Please contact Marilyn Burgess at the Public Works office at 923-9125 if you wish to have any input in this new development.

We, members of the Chitimacha Staff, would like to express our deepest sympathy to our fellow employee, Ms. Anne, for her profound loss.

